

# Stans puer ad mensā.

otherwylse called the booke of Noxture/  
newly imprinted and very necessary  
vnto all youthe.



*By me King and  
Lords of England  
Lords of France*





**M**y dere chylde fyyste thy selfe enable  
with al thy hert to vertuous disciplin.  
Afoze thy souerayn stāding at y table  
Dyspose thy youthe after doctryne  
To all nurture thy courage enclyne  
Fyist whan thou spekest be not recheles  
Kepe fote and synger styll in peas.

Be symple of chere / caste not thy loke asyde  
Gase not aboute tournynge ouer all  
Agaynst the post let not thy backe abyde  
Make not thy myrtour of the wall  
Pyke not thy nose and in especyall  
Be ryght well ware and let in thy thought  
Afoze thy souerayne scratche ne rubbe nought.

who that speketh to the in ony maner place  
Lumpysshely cast not thy heed adowne  
But with a sad chere loke hym in the face  
walke demurely by stretes in the towne  
And aduertise the by wysdome and reason  
with desolate laughters thou do none offence  
Tofoze thy souereyne whyle he is in ptesence.

Dare clene thy nayles thy handes wasche also  
Tofoze meate and whan thou dose aryse  
Sytt in the place that thou arte assygned to  
Drese not to hye in no maner of wyle  
And tyll thou se afoze the thy seruyce  
Be not to hasty on breed for to byte  
Of gredynes lest men wyll the awpte.

Greennynge and mowynge at the table eschewe  
Crye not to loude kepe honestly scyence



Thyne elbowes on the table that is not dewe  
With full mouthe speke not lest thou do offence  
Drynke not byddled for haste ne for neglygence  
Kepe cleane thy lippes fro fatte of flesshe or fyssh  
Wype fayre thy sponne leue it not in thy dyshe.

Of thy breed no soppes that thou make  
Loude for to suppe it is agaynste gentylnesse  
With mouthe byddled thy cuppe thou not take  
In ale and wyne with hande leue no fantnesse  
Foule not thy naperie for no rechelesnesse  
Aeyther at meet be ware begynne no stryfe  
Thy tethe also pyke not with thy knyfe.

And where so euer it be thou dyne or soupe  
Of gentylnesse take salte with thy knyfe  
And beware thou blowe not in thy cuppe  
Reuerence thy felowes begyn with them no stryfe  
To thy power kepe peas all thy lyfe  
Interrupte not where so thou wende  
No mannes tale tyll he haue made an ende.

With thy synger marke not thy tale  
Be well auysed namely in tender aege  
To drynke by measure bothe wyne and ale  
Be not coryous also of language  
As tyme requyrez shewe so thy bylage  
To glad ne to sorow but kepe bytweene twayne  
For losse or lucre or any case sodayne.

Be meke in measure not hasty but treatable  
ouer moche is not worthe no thyng  
To chyliden longeth not to be vengeable  
Done meynge and sone forgyuynge.

Stans ouer.

All.

And as it is remembred by olde wytyng  
wyathe of chyldren it is sone ouergone  
with an apple parted be made at one.

Of honest mythe let be thy dalyaunce  
Swere none othes speke no rybaudy  
The best moysell haue this in remembraunce  
Holy to thy selfe do not apply  
Parte with thy felowe for that is curtesy  
Lade not thy trenchoure with many remyslayles  
And fro blackenes alway kepe thy nayles.

Of courtesy also agaynst the lawe  
with great dyshoneste for to do offence  
Of olde surfettcs attwyt not thy felowe  
Towarde thy souerayne haue alway aduertence  
Play not with thy knyfe take hede to my sentence  
At meate and souper kepe the styll and softe  
Eke to and fro meue not thy fete to ofte.

Droppe not on thy brest with sauce ne potage  
Byng no knyues vnsoured to the table  
Fyll not thy sponc lest in the carpage  
It goo besyde it were not commendable  
Be quykke and redy meke and scruplable  
well in waytyng to fulfyll anone  
what thy souerayne commaundeth the to done.

with chyldren nowe warre and nowe debate  
In theyr quarell is no great byolence  
Nowe playe nowe wepyng felde in one estate  
To theyr complaynts gyue no great audience  
A rodde reformeth all theyr insolence  
In theyr courage no rancour dothe abyde.



who spareth the rodde setteth all vertue asyde

Go lytell byll barayne of eloquence  
Praye the yonge chyldren that the shal here oꝛ rede  
Though thou be not commendous of sentence  
Of thy clauses foꝛ to take hede  
Whiche to all vertue shal the youthe lede  
Of thy wytynge though there be no date  
It ought be amys put the faute in Lydgate.

Arise erly	Arise therfro temperately
Serue god deuoutely	Go to thy souper soberly
The worlde besely	To bedde meryly
Go thy way sadly	And be there iocundously
Answer demurely	And slepe surely
Go to thy meate appetely.	

### Salve regina in Englyshe.

**S**alue) with al obeysaunce to god in humbles  
Regina) to reigne euermore in blyss  
Mater) to chryst as we do expresse  
Misericordie) vnto all wretchidnesse  
Vita) to quyen and to helpe more and lesse  
Dulcedo) of pleasaunte beaute  
And we to saye thy dowry is  
And therfore we synge (Et spes nostra salue  
Ad te) most meke and most benygne virgyn  
Clamamus) loude with voyce tymorous  
Erules) made by false fraude serpentyn  
Filii) frayle / carefull and dolorous  
Eue) therfore oure lyfe dolorous  
Ad te) best meane to oure loꝛde god and man  
Suspiramus) here in the see tro ublous  
Stans puer. A.iii.

Gementes) as sorowfully as we can  
Et flentes) ofte with teres smerte  
In hac) dolefull / peynfull and lamentable  
Lachrimarum) woundynge the mortall herte  
Valle) restless / greuous and chaungeable.  
Eya ergo / mayden moost ampyable

Advocata nostra) oure medyatryce  
Illos tuos) byghest and confortable  
Misericordes oculos) full of ioye of paradysse  
Ad nos) fletynge in this see of tormente  
Conuerte) nowe of souerayne pyte.

Et Jesum) oure lord and pryncer omnipotent  
Benedictum) full of most hye bounte  
Fructum) of lyfe and ryche benygnte  
Ventris tui) most gracypous creature  
Nobis post hoc exilium ostende  
To oure eternall greatest ioye and pleasure  
O clemens) full mercyfull rychesse  
O pia) full of ryche compassyon  
O dulcis) full of helpe in echa dystresse  
Virgo) fayrest way of saluacyon  
Maria) floure of swetest medytacyon  
Salue) with all oure most lowly seruyce  
Water) of lyfe and eternall creacyon  
Salue / alway as ferre as we can suffyse.

O who so of welthe taketh no hede  
He shall fynde faute in tyme of nede  
This worlde is mutable so sayth the sage  
Therefore gader in tyme or thou shalte fall in aege  
In welthe be ware of wo what so the happes  
And bere the euen so; fere of after clappes.



Fortune is barlaunt aye turnynge her whele  
He is wyse that is ware oꝝ he harme fele  
Better it is to suffre and fortune to abyde  
Than hastely to clymbe and sodenly to slyde  
Knowe oꝝ thou knytte and than mayst thou flake  
If thou knytte oꝝ thou knowe than it is to late.

Here begynneth lytell  
Johan.

**T**ell Johan syth your tender infancye  
Standeth as yet vnder in dyfference  
To vyce oꝝ vertu to moue oꝝ applye  
And in suche a ge there is no prouydence  
Ne commonlye no sage intellygence  
But as were receyueth prynte oꝝ fygyre  
So chyldren ben dysposed of natnre.

Vyce and vertu to folowe and impresse  
In mynde and therfoze to styre and remeue  
You fro vyce and to vertu adresse  
That one to folowe and that other to eshewe  
I haue deuyled you this lytell newe  
Instruccyon accoꝝdynge vnto your aeye  
Playne in sentence but playner in language.

Take hede therfoze and herken what I saye  
And gyue therto your audyence  
Let not your eare be here and your harte awaye  
But put ye therto your besy diligence  
Layenge a parte all wantayne insolence  
Lerne to be vertuons and well thewde  
Who that wyll not letne nedes he must be lewde.

Afoze all thynges and princypally  
In the mornynge and whan ye bp ryse  
To worshyp god haue in memory  
With chrystes crosse loke ye blesse you thyse  
your pater noster say in deuoute wyse  
Aue maria with the holy crede  
Than all the daye after the better shall you spede.

And whyle that ye be aboute honeste  
To dysse your selfe and do on your araye  
With your felowes well and trefable  
Oure lady matyns loke that ye saye  
And this obseruaunce kepe you euery daye  
With pyme and houres withouten dyede  
Oure blessed lady wyll quyte your mede

Rembe your heed and loke ye kepe it clene  
your cares twayne suffre not foule to be  
In youre bysage loke no spotte be sene  
Purge your nose let no man it se  
The byle matere it is no honeste  
Noz with youre bare hande no fylthe fro it fetche  
For that is a foule and an vncurteyse tetch.

Your handes wasshen is an holsome thyng  
your nayles loke they be not gette blacke  
Ne suffre not ouer longe growynge  
To your araye I warne you good hede take  
And manerly ye fyte it vp and make  
your hood/ goune/ hosen/ and eke your sho  
with all your aray longynge your bodye to.

Kepe you clene and lose not your gere  
And o: ye passe out of your lodgynge



Euery garment that ye shall on were  
A wayte well that it be so syttyng  
As to your degre semeth accordyng  
Than wyll men saye, for soth this chylde is he  
That is well taught and loueth honeste

And as ye walke, and passe by the strete  
Be nat nyce of chere and countenaunce  
But loke my chylde to folkes that ye mete  
ye speke saye with wordes of plesaunce  
Demure and curyse of your demenaunce  
To him that is your felowe and pere  
Gyue ye saye language and frendly chere

Cast no styke ne stone at no beest  
And where ye walke, beware ye ne rage  
For if ye do, ye shall to bretheles feest  
Cary nat with hounde in felde ne byllage  
Go forth your waye, demeanynge your byage  
In sobre wyse that men maye of you saye  
A goodly chylde there passed by the waye

And whā ye come into the churche my lytell chylde  
Holy water ye shall vpon you caste  
Before the crosse with chere meke and mylde  
Knele adoune, and knocke on thy breste  
Thankynge thy good lord that on it dyd reste  
And theron for you, suffred his sydes to blede  
Saye ye oꝛ ye ryle (Water noster, aue, & a Crede)

Awyse you well also for any thyng  
The church of prayer is house and place  
Beware therfore of claterynge oꝛ ianglyng  
For in the churche, it is a full great trespass

Afoze all thynges and princypally  
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Foꝝ in the churche, it is a full great trespase

And a token of suche as lacke grace  
There be ye demure and kepe ye scyence  
And serue you god with all your dilygence

To helpe the prest whan he sayth masse  
Whan it shall happen you oꝛ betyde  
Remembꝛe not ferre from him ye passe  
Knele oꝛ stande deuoutly hym besyde  
And not to nye/your tongue must be applyde  
To answere hym with voyce full moderate  
Aduyse you well my lytell chylde algate

To mistrystre with deuout reuerence  
Loke ye do your humble obseruaunce  
Debonayzly with due obedyence  
Circumstan tly with euery circumstance  
Of porte and chere/of goodlysemblaunce  
Remembꝛe well the lord aboue is he  
Whome to serue is gretest lyberte

And whan ye speke loke men in the face  
With sobꝛe chere and goodly countenaunce  
Cast not your eyes a syde in an other place  
For that is a token of wanton constaunce  
Whiche wyl appayꝛe your name and dyslauaunce  
The wylse man sayth who hath these thynges thre  
Is not lyke a good man for to be

In herte he sayth who that is constante  
A wauerynge eye glydynge sodeynly  
Fro place to place of fote varypante  
That in no place abydeyth stably  
These ben the sygnes y the wylse man sayth sykerly  
Of suche a wyght as is vnnanerly nyse



And is full lyghtly disposed vnto vyce.

Alwayte my chylde whan ye stande at the table  
Of mayster oz souerayne whether it be  
Apply you for to be scrupfable  
That no faute in you founden be  
Loke who dothe best and hym ensewe ye  
And in a specyall vse gyue ye attendaunce  
Wherin ye shall your selfe best auauunce.

All ye be commaunded so do ye algate  
Be not causelesse fro the table absente  
It is a great pleasure to the hyghe estate  
To se his seruauntes aboute hym presente  
Haunte no hynesse for than ye wyll be shente  
Let maner and measure be your guydes twayne  
So shall ye best please I dare safely sayne.

Regarde also the loke and counteuauunce  
Of youre mayster oz of youre souerayne  
So shall ye best proue what is his pleasaunce  
Or els displeasaunce this is for certayne  
The chere dyscouereth often bothe twayne  
And eke the chere somtyme maye you adresse  
In thynges that language maye not expresse.

And that ye here loke ye kepe secrete  
Busy reporte of myschefe is chese nouryce  
Mykell language may not all fauteles be  
Thay do my chylde as techeth you the wyse  
Whiche vnto you this lesson dothe deuyse  
Here and se and be styll in euery prees  
Passe forth the youre waye in scyence and in pees.

An d yet in a venture, if the case requyre  
ye maye speke, but ye must percase  
Seuen condicions obserue, as ye maye now here  
Aupse you well what you saye, and in what place  
Of whom, and to whom, in your mynde compase  
Howe ye shall speke, and than take good hede  
This counseyled the wyse man without drede.

Awayte my chylde, ye behaue you manerly  
whan at your meat, ye syt at the table  
In euery prees, and in euery company  
Dyspose you to be so compenable  
That men maye of you, reporte foꝛ commendable  
Foꝛ truste well vpon your berynge  
Men wyll you blame, oꝛ gyue praysynge.

And pryncipe it truly in memoꝝy  
Foꝛ a princypall poynte of fayre noulture  
ye defame no man absente, spectally  
Saynte Austen admonyssheth, with busy cure  
How men at the table shulde them assure  
That there escape them no suche language  
As myght helpe other folke to dyspayage.

Thynge somtyme vsed now ben layd asyde  
And newe feates dayly ben contriued  
Mennes actes can in no place abyde  
They be chaungeable and ofte meued  
Thynge somtyme allowed is not repressed  
And after this shall thynge by aryle  
That men set nowe but at lytell pryse.

This curteyse clerke wyrteth in this wyse  
Rebukynge the vyce of vyle detraccyon



What may it be that of custome and guyse  
Hurteth with tongue or by collusyon  
The absente wene ye that for that abusyon  
Suche a detractoure frome the table  
As vnworthy and also reprochable.

Whan you sytte therfore at youre repast  
Anoye ye no man present nor absent  
But speke wordes fewe for if ye make waste  
Of large language for sothe ye must be shente  
And whan ye speke with good intente  
Of maters acordinge vnto pleasaunce  
But nothyng that may cause men greuaunce.

Eschewe also tatches of foule rauayne  
Of greedy luste with vncurteyse appetyte  
Peace not to soone / fro your meet restrayne  
your hande a whyle with manerly respyte  
Fede the for necessite and not for delyte  
Demeane you with meet and drynke so soberly  
That ye be not resecte with glotony.

Embewe not your vessell nor your napery  
Ouer maner of measure but kepe them clene  
Ensoyle not your cuppe but kepe it clenly  
Let no fatnes on your lippes be sene  
For that is foule ye wote what I mene  
Or that ye drynke for youre owne honeste  
your lippes wype and clenly loke they be.

Blowe not in your drynke nor in your potage  
Be ferce not your dysche full of brede  
Bere not your knyfe towarde your bysage.  
For there is peryll and mykell dyede

Stans.

Bill.

Scratche not youre bysage/ touche not your heed  
with youre bare hande syttinge at the table  
For in noyture suche thynges are reprouable

Lose not youre gyrdell syttinge at your meat  
For that is a touche of vncurtely  
But yf ye seme ye be embraced strayne  
Or that ye sytte amende it secretely  
So couertly that no whyghte you espyce  
Beware also no brythe fro you rebounde  
Up ne downe lest ye were shamefull founde.

Be ye styll in chambze and scylence in hall  
Herken well and gyue good audience  
Usher or marshall for ony rumour calle  
Put ye ianglers to rebuke for scylence  
Be ye mylde of language demure of eloquence  
Enforce you to hym conformed to be  
That can most good and hathe humanyte.

Touche not with youre meat salte in the seller  
Leste folke apoynte you of buconnyngnesse  
Dresse it a parte vpon a clene trencher  
Farce not your mouthe to full for wantonnesse  
Lene not vpon the table for that rude is  
And if I shall playnly to you saye  
Ouer the table ye shall not spytell conuaye.

Yf ye be serued of meates delycate  
Depart with youre felowe in gentyll wyse  
The clerke saythe nature is contente and saciate  
with meane dyete and lytell shall suffyse  
Depart therfore as I you deuylse  
Engrose not vnto yourselfe all.



For gentylnes wyll aye be lyberall

And whan percase your seruyce is not large  
Gudge not with frownyng countenaunce  
He make therof mykell charge  
Dispose you to goodly countenaunce  
And what ye haue take it in suffysaunce  
Be ye pleased with suche as good hath sente  
He hath ynough that can holde hym contents

Burnyshe no bones with your teth beware  
Suche houndes tatches fallen of vncurteysy  
But with your knyfe make the bone bare  
Handle your meet so well and so clenly  
That ye offende not the company  
Where ye be set as ferforth as ye can  
Remembre well that maners make a man

And whan that you ete your meet small  
With open mouth beware ye nat eate  
But loke your lyppes be closed as a wall  
Whan to and fro ye trauerse your meate  
Kepe you so close that men haue no concepte  
To say of you any language or byllany  
Bycause ye eate your meate vnmanerly

Beware my chylde of laughynge ouer measure  
He at the borde ye shall no nayles pare  
He pyke your teth with knyfe If you ensure  
Eate at your mease and other folkes spare  
A gloton can but make the bones bare  
And of ynough he taketh neuer hede  
He fedeth more for lust than for nede

And whan the boorde is thynne as of seruyce  
Not replenysshed with great dyuersyte  
Of meet and drynke good chere may them suffyce  
With honest talkynge and also ought ye  
With gladsome chere than fullsome for to be  
The poete sayth how that a pooze boorde  
Men may entyce with cherefull wyll and worde

And one thyng my chylde ye vnderstande  
In especyall for your owne honeste  
In the water washe so clene your hande  
That your towell neuer enfoyled be  
So foule that it be lothsome on to se  
Washe with water your handes so clene  
That in the towell no spotte be sene

Leue not your spone in your dysche standynge  
Ne vpon the table it shall not lye  
Let your trenchoure be clene for ony thyng  
And yf ye haue chaunge yet as honestly  
As ye can auoyde it manerly  
So that no fragment from your trenchoure fall  
Do this my chylde in chambze and in hall

And whan another man speketh at the table  
Beware ye interrupte not his language  
For that is a thyng vncommendable  
And it is no sygne of folkes that be sage  
To be of language besy and outrage  
For the wyse man sayth in his sentence  
He shulde be wyse that gyueth audyence

Understande therfore or ye speke



Pryncete in your mynde clerely the sentence  
Who that blyeth a mannes tale to breke  
Letteyth vncurtesly all the audyence  
And hurteth hymselfe for faute of scyence  
He maye not gyue answere conuenyente  
That hereth not fynally what is mente

But beware my chylde also of reherfayle  
Of maters whiche ben at the table meued  
It greueth ofte of them for to tell  
Full many a man that byce hath myscheued  
Of euyll thynges sayde is worse contrpyued  
Suche reportes alwaye my chylde escheue  
One maye of olde frendes make enmyes newe.

Auysse you well whan you take your dyspoyte  
Honest games that ye haunte and vse  
And suche as be of vylenous repoyte  
I counsayle you my chylde that ye refuse  
For trust ye well ye shall you not excuse  
Frome brecheles feest and I maye you espye  
Blayenge at ony game of rybaudy.

It is a goodly chylde and well syttyng  
To vse dyspoytes of myrthe and pleasaunce  
To harpe or lute or lustely to syng  
Or in the p[re]se ryght manerly to daunce  
Whan men se a chylde of suche gouernaunce  
They saye gladdes may this chyldes frendes be  
To haue a chylde so manerly as is he.

Exercyse also your selfe in redyng  
Of bookes enorned with eloquence  
Then shall ye fynde bothe pleasure and lernyng

Stans

C. l.

So that ye maye in euery good p[re]sence  
Somwhat fynde than in sentence  
That shall acorde the tyme to occupye  
That ye nede not to stande ydely.

It is fayre to be comunicatye  
In maters vnto purpose acor[dynge  
So that a wyght seme exerceptye  
For trusteth well it is a tedyous thyng  
For to here a chylde multiply talkynge  
If it be not to thy purpose applyed  
And also with goodly termes alped.

Redeth Gower in his wytyng mo[r]all  
That auncyent father of memo[r]y  
Redeth his boke called confessonall  
With many another vertuous treaty  
Full of sentence set full fructuously  
That hym to rede shall gyue you courage  
He is full of fruyte/sentence/and language.

O father and founder of eno[r]mate eloquence  
That enlumyned haste oure great Brytayne  
To soone we lost thy lauriate kyence  
O lusty lycoure of that fulliome fontayne  
O cursed dethe why haste thou that poete slayne  
I meane Gower/Chaucer/and Galfryde  
Helas the tyme that euer they fro vs dyed.

Redeth they? wo[r]kes full of pleasaunce  
Clere in sentence/and language excellent  
Brefely to wyte suche were they? suffysaunce  
What euer to saye they loke in they? intente  
They? language was so fayre and pertynente



It semed vnto miennes herynge  
Not onely the worde but verely the thyng

Rede my chylde/rede theyr bokes all  
Refuse none they ben expedient  
Sentence and language bothe fynde ye shall  
Full delectable that good fader ment  
Of all his purpose and his hole entent  
Howe to please in euery audyence  
And in our tongue as well of eloquence

Beholde Okelyfe in his translacyon  
In goodly language and sentence passyng wyse  
How he gyueth his prynce exortacyon  
As to the hyest he coulde best deuise  
Of trueth peas/mercy/ and iustyce  
And vertue lettynge for no slouth  
To do his deuoyre and quyte hym his trouthe

Requyre hym as agaynst his souerayne  
Most dreedde and loued whose excellent hyghnes  
He aduerted by his wytyng playne  
To vertue apperteynyng to nobles  
Of a prynce as bereth good wytnes  
His treatye entytled of regement  
Compyled of entyre and trewe entent

Loke also vpon Johan Lydgate  
My mayster whylom monke of Burge  
worthy to be renomed as poete laureate  
I pray to god in blysse his soule be mery  
Syngrng (rex splendens) that heuenly kyng  
Amonge the muses nyne celestyal  
Before the hyest Jupyter of all

Stans.

C.ii.

Passeynge the muses nyne of Elycon  
where is no payll of armonye  
Thydet I trust my maysters soule be gone  
The sterred palayes aboue the dappled skye  
There to synge sanctus incessantly  
Amonge the muses nyne celestyall  
Before the hyst Jupyter of all

Rede his volumes that be large and wyde  
Surely set in sadnes of sentence  
Enlumyned with colours freshe on euery syde  
He lacketh wytte I haue none eloquence  
To gyue hym laude after his excellence  
For I dare say he lefte hym not alpye  
That coulde his connyng suffyciently discryue

But his werkes laude must nedes conquere  
They may neuer out of remembraunce dye  
His werkes shall his name conuey and bere  
Aboute the worlde almost eternally  
Let his owne werkes hym prayse and magnifye  
I dare not prayse for fere lest I offende  
My language shuld rather appayze than amende

Lo my chylde these fathers auncient  
Kyped the felde freshe of fullomenes  
The floures freshe they gathered vp and hent  
Of syluer language the great ryches  
who wyl it haue my chylde doubtles  
Must of them begge there is no more to say  
For of your tongue they bere bothe locke and keye

There can no man theyr werkes dysteyne  
The enbaumed tongue and laurate sentence



Men gete it now by cantelmie and glayne  
Here and there by busy diligence  
And fayne wolde reche they? crafte and eloquence  
And by the glayne it is full ofte sene  
In whose felde the glayners haue bene

And vnto me age hath bode good morowe  
I am not to able clenly for to glayne  
Nature is fayne of crafte her even to borowe  
We lacketh clerenes of myne eyen twayne  
Begge I may / glayne I may not certayne  
Therefore that werke I wyll playnly remyt  
To folkes yonge more passynge clere of wyt

Serche ye therfore and in case ye fynde  
Suche glaynours freshe as haue some appareate  
Of fayre language ye take them and vnbrynde  
And proue ye what they be in exystence  
Colourynge in language sauely in sentence  
And doubt not my chylde without drede  
yt wyll profyte to se suche thynges and rede

ye este sones my chylde let vs resoꝛte  
To the ende of your fyrst matere  
Degressed somwhat for we wolde reporte  
And reuyue the laude of them that were  
Famous in oure language these fathers dere  
whose soules in blyss god eternall auauunce  
That lystn so our language to enhaunce

Chan lytell Johan I counsell you that ye  
Take hede to the noꝛtures that men vse  
Newe founde or auncient whether it be  
So shal no man your courtesy refuse

Stans.

C.iii.

The guyle and custome my chylde shal you excuse  
Mennes werkes haue often enterchaunge  
That now is noztur somtyme hath be straunge

This mene I chylde that ye shal haunte  
The guyle of them that do most manerly  
But beware of vnthyrty ruskynge galaunte  
Counterfeytynge of vncomynge curtesy  
His tatches be infecte with bylany  
Ungyde/ vnblessed seruyng at the table  
Men semeth a seruaunt nothyng able

wynter and somer to his sauterayne  
Capron hardy no bonet lyst to auayle  
For one worde gyue his mayster twayne  
A baunte parler in euery mannes tale  
Absolon wteh dysheueled heeres smale  
Lyke to a pylsonere of saynt Malowes  
A semely busshe for to go to the galowes

O I passe noztur sye sye for shame  
A myght haue sayd he shulde go hawke & hunte  
For that shulde be a gentylmans game  
To suche dysportes gentyll folkes be wonte  
I sayd to ferre my language was to blonte  
But yet syz galaunt whan ye shall bowe oʒ knele  
He goeth by compass rounde as dothe a whele

Braied so strayne that he may not play  
But gather it by maner of a wydglass  
And he ought wrenche a lytell awye  
His gere standeth there in full peryllous case  
His hose/his sho/doublet/poynt/and lase  
And yf ought breke some tongues that be bad



wyll mocke and saye a knaue hath broke a ladde

Let the galaunte goe I mene rechelesse rusynge  
Take hede my chylde to suche as be connyng  
So shall ye best worshyp conquere and wyne  
Enforce you in all your demenyng  
To folowe vertue and fro foly declynyng  
And wayte well that ye loue honeste  
whiche is acordyng to humanyte.

That is for to vnderstande and knowe  
That youre araye be manerly reasonable  
Not applye vnto mockyng ne to moue  
To nyce araye that is not commendable  
Feates newe founde by folles vnpofytable  
That maketh the worlde so playnly transformat  
That men seme almost infemyate

Playe not Iacke malaperte that is to saye  
Beware of presumpcyon beware of pryde  
Take not the fyrst place my chylde  
Tyll other be sette ryght manerly abyde  
Presumptuous be ofte set asyde  
And all daye auayled as men may se  
He is sette vp that hath humylyte.

To connyng persones regarde ye take  
Where ye be set ryght in intentyse wyse  
Connyng folke connyng men shall make  
To they? connyng ye shall make your surmyse  
And as they do ye must yourselfe deuyse  
For this my chylde is as the gospel trewe  
who wyll be connyng he must to connyng sewe.



And one thyng I warne you specially  
To womanhed take a we alwaye  
And them to serue loke ye haue an eye  
And theyr commaundementes that ye obeye  
Pleasaunte wordes I aduise you to them saye  
And in all wyse do your dyligence  
To do them pleasure and reuerence.

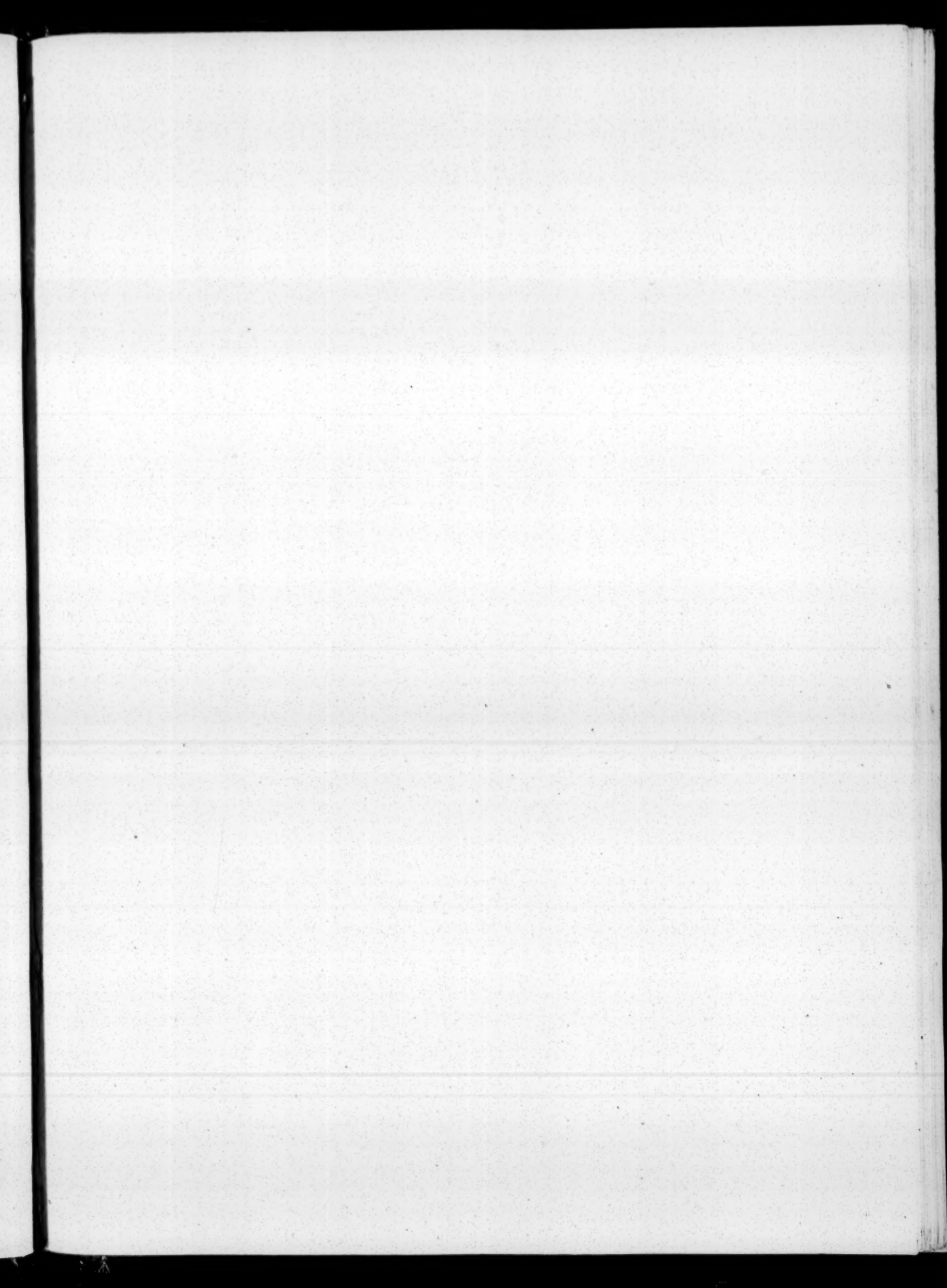
And at this tyme this treatyse shall suffyse  
Dyspose you to kepe it in mynde  
The doctryne whiche for you I deuise  
And doubt ye not full well ye shall it fynde  
To your honour enrolle it vp and bynde  
Ryght in your brest and in your ryper aege  
I shall wyte you here of the surplusage.

So lytell Johan and who dothe you appose  
Sayenge your quayze kepeth none accordaunce  
Tell hym as yet neyther in tyme ne prose  
He be experte praye hym of suffraunce  
Chyldren must be of chyldeley gouernaunce  
And here I make an ende of my quayer  
God sende vs parte of every good prayer.

A B C R.

¶ Imprinted at London in Southwarke  
by me Johan Redman.









collated, a few small  
defects but complete

W. B. Quarles III,  
young